

THE CATHOLIC CHURCHES OF



ST BERNARD

201 MAIN ST, BLENCOE, IA



ST JOHN

1009 13TH ST, ONAWA, IA



ST JOSEPH

510 TIPTON ST, SALIX, IA

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

Parish Staff

Pastor, Rev. Michael J. Erpelding

(712) 423-2656

father@stjohnparishonawa.com

father@stjoeparishsalix.com

Director of Faith Formation, Michelle Rethman

(712) 202-6641

michelle@stjohnparishonawa.com

michelle@stjoeparishsalix.com

Secretary – St. John & St. Bernard, Colleen Maule

(712) 423-1004

secretary@stjohnparishonawa.com

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday
7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Secretary – St. Joseph, Mary Brady

(712) 946-5635

secretary@stjoeparishsalix.com

Office Hours: Monday – Friday
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Websites – St. John: www.stjohnonawa.com

St. Joseph: www.stjoesalix.com

Sacraments

Reconciliation: 30 min. before Mass or by appointment

Baptism: St. John – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

St. Joseph – Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

Baptism Class: Contact the Director of Faith Formation

Marriage: Arrangements at least six (6) months prior to marriage. Interview with the pastor is required before date for marriage can be given.

Questions of the Week

Adults: Am I willing to spend some dedicated time “apart” with Jesus in prayer during Lent, waiting for whatever God wishes to reveal to me?

Children: When I pray to Jesus, do I also try to be still and listen to what he is saying in my heart?

As a college student, my prized possession was an after-market car stereo. It was my pride and joy: glorious audio, eye-catching display screen, and multi-disc CD changer. It drained my hard-earned dollars, but it was totally worth it.



It drenched me in music everywhere I drove. On Ash Wednesday of my senior year of college, Father Tom, the Jesuit priest at my university said, “Pray for God to tell you what he wants you to sacrifice for Lent.” I did. In my heart, the answer came: “Give up listening to your car stereo for forty days.” I winced. Not possible, I thought. Can’t do it. I made other plans. The next

morning, I was stunned to find that my car had been broken into, and my fancy stereo ripped out and stolen.

God’s command to sacrifice what we love is no joke. This week in Genesis 22, God says: “**Abraham!**” “**Here I am,**” he replied. Then God said, “**Take your son, your only son, whom you love – Isaac – and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.**” Believe me, I know. We like to be in control. It chafes us that God sets the terms of what we must sacrifice, and how. But this is no impersonal, tyrannical process. Remember that God uses their names, Abraham and Isaac. God knows each one of us and the precious gifts He commands us to offer. Finally, our sacrifices are for our own good. Do we trust this enough to do what Father Tom asked me to do?

Lenten challenge: This week, I dare you to ask God: “What do you want me to give up?” He may ask for that which you love most. It will be something precious to you: time, money, a relationship, a dream, an opportunity. What matters is we trust Him and act sacrificially in line with His command. Whatever we sacrifice will of course come back to us as surely as the Risen Jesus – but that doesn’t make it easy.

— Father John Muir
©LPi

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 25, 2024

Mass Schedule for St. John and St. Joseph Churches

Day	Date	Time	Mass Intentions	Location
Monday	February 26		No Mass	
Tuesday	February 27	9:00 AM	No Mass – Clergy Day	St. Joseph
Wednesday	February 28	9:00 AM	Pat Connealy	St. John
Thursday	February 29	9:00 AM	Ken Washburn	St. Joseph
Friday	March 1	10:00 AM	Fr. Dale Reiff	Pleasant View Nursing Home
Saturday	March 2	4:00 PM	Bert & Ella Ullrich	St. Joseph
Sunday	March 3	9:00 AM	John, Marjorie & Bob Zink	St. John
		11:00 AM	Parishioners of St. John, St. Joseph & St. Bernard	St. Joseph

GROWING IN OUR FAITH

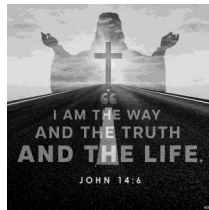
Religious Education Schedule

February	
28 th	St. John: Classes, 6:30 – 7:30 PM
28 th	6:30 – 7:30 PM (Classes, K – 4); Soup Series (5 – 10)
March	
7 th	Classes, 6:30 – 7:30 PM
14 th	Classes, 6:30 – 7:30 PM
21 st	Classes, 6:30 – 7:30 PM
28 th	<i>No classes – Holy Week</i>

Westwood Ministerial Association

Lenten Worship Series 2024

The Westwood Ministerial Association is offering a Lenten Series of a Simple Soup Supper and Worship. This year the theme centers around the “I AM” statements in the Bible. Dinner is at 6:00pm and Worship is at 7:00pm. All faiths are invited.

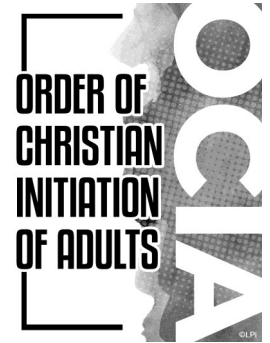


Wed, Feb 28: Hosted by Father Michael Erpelding and St. Joseph Catholic Church-Salix. “I AM the door of the sheep” based on John 10:7.

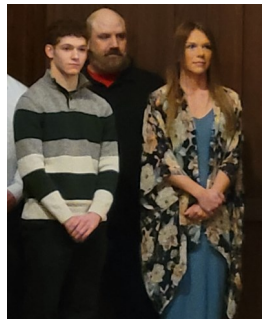
Wed, Mar 6: Hosted by Pastor Catie Newman and the Salix Community United Methodist Church “I AM the good shepherd” based on John 10:11.

Wed, Mar 13: Hosted by Pastor Craig Bock and Skien Lutheran Church, Albaton “I AM the resurrection and the life” based on John 11:25.

Wed, Mar 20: Hosted by Pastor Rich Moore and the Evangelical Covenant Church and the Simple Soup Supper provided by Community Church of Christ. “I AM the way the truth and the life” based on John 14:6.



On February 18th, St. John sent three catechumens to the Cathedral of the Epiphany for the Rite of Election, and St. Joseph Church sent one catechumen to the Cathedral. These catechumens – now the Elect – are entering their final period of preparation before receiving the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. The Elect from St. John are Drew Bryan, Ava Bryan, and Grant Bryan. Their mother, Emily, will have her own journey into the Church, as well as their youngest brother, Trent. Summer Brenden is the Elect at St. Joseph Church. Her fiancé, Brandon Thompson, and their daughter, Georgia, will also enter the Church at the Easter Vigil Mass at St. Joseph on Saturday, March 30th.



DID YOU KNOW?

“Catechumen,” Greek in origin, means “being instructed.” A “catechumen” is any adult or child, ages 7–14, who is preparing to enter the Catholic Church. At the Rite of Election, “catechumens” become “the Elect” because they are entering the final period of catechetical (teaching) formation. Please continue to pray for our Elect as they prepare to receive the Easter sacraments.

ST. JOHN & ST. BERNARD NEWS

St. John & St. Bernard Weekly Offering

Registered Families: 185

February 11, 2024

Envelopes and Loose Giving	\$1445.00
E-Offering	\$74.70
Food Pantry	
St. Bernard	\$115.00
Grain	
Total for February 11, 2024	\$1634.70

ST. JOSEPH NEWS

St. Joseph Weekly Offering

February 10-11, 2024

Envelopes and Loose Giving	\$2448.75
E-Offering	\$175.70
Candles	\$75.00
Emergency/Maintenance	\$200.00
Cemetery Perpetual Fund	\$200.00
Total for Feb 10-11, 2024	\$3099.45



Lenten Fish Fry's

©LPI

Plan on attending our Lenten Fish Fry's, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council #6249, featuring Staley's Catering.

The first one is **March 8th**, 5:30 pm – 6:45 pm.

The second one is **March 22nd**, 5:30 pm – 6:45 pm.

Help us support our Knights and enjoy some community camaraderie.



Everyone is invited to First Congregational UCC in Whiting for World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 1 at 2 PM. The women of Palestine have written this year's program with the theme, "I beg you...bear with one another in love", taken from Ephesians 4:1-3. A freewill offering will be taken to benefit World Day of Prayer USA. Refreshments will be served following the program. World Day of Prayer is a worldwide ecumenical movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer and action each year on the first Friday in March. This years event is being sponsored by First Congregational, UCC and the UCC church in Castana. If you have any questions, contact Fran Haack at 420-1681.



©LPI

Please join us for the annual Westwood Ministerial Association ecumenical Lenten series at **St. Joseph** on **Wednesday, February 28, 6:00 PM**. We will begin in the Parish Hall with a simple soup supper at 6:00 PM and then Father Michael will present in the church at 7:00 PM. *Everyone* is invited to attend. Let us feed your body and souls!

Middle School and High School Students: Please come for the soup supper and stay for Father Michael's presentation.

We look forward to seeing you there!

The St. Joseph Youth Choir is seeking new members. Any youth in grades 4th-12th are encouraged to join in this ministry. The Youth Choir sings the 1st Sunday of the month at the 11:00am mass. Practice is 1 hour before mass. Please join us on Sunday, March 3 for practice at 10:00am and mass at 11:00am. For more information, contact Jim Doyle at (712) 259-0654.



There will not be daily mass at St. Joseph on Tuesday, February 27. Father Erpelding will be attending a clergy day in Storm Lake.

God Laughs

Wise sayings:

War does not determine who is right, war determines who is left.

A man who drives like hell is bound to get there.

A man who lives in a glass house should change clothes in the basement.



Together as One (TAO) supports the Parish Accounting office. The parish accounting office provides financial oversight & expertise, assistance with maintenance of financial records and controls in accordance with legal requirements of running a small business.

PARISH	GOAL	PLEDGES	REMAINING
ST. JOHN	\$8,987.00	\$6,130.00	\$2,857.00
ST. JOSEPH	\$12,481.00	\$11,007.00	\$1,474.00

Willow Workers 4H Club Soup Luncheon Sunday, March 3

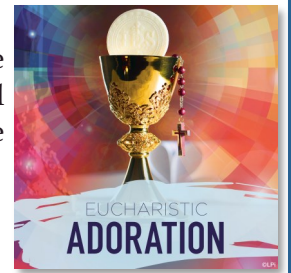
10:30am-1:00pm
Sloan Community Center
\$8 per Ticket



Carmelite Board Day of Recollection Tuesday, March 5, 2024

All parishioners and friends are invited to attend the annual Day of Recollection sponsored by members of the Carmelite Board. The Day of Recollection will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at the Carmelite Monastery, 2901 So. Cecilia, with registration at 8:45am. The Day begins at 9:00am with a message from Rev. Roger Linnan followed by Mass at 9:45am. A hospitality brunch will be served from 10:30-11:00am. The Day will continue at 11:00am with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Day will conclude with Benediction at 11:50am and dismissal at 12 noon. There is no charge. For more information call 712-301-5352.

The Holy Eucharist will be available for Adoration. All are invited to spend some time with the Lord.



Sunday, March 3

St. Joseph, Salix, 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Sunday, April 14

St. John, Onawa, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm



Knights of Columbus®

Membership Drive

The Knights of Columbus is an International Order of Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others and defend values in a busy, changing world. Our local Council #6249 will be holding a membership drive at all masses the weekend of March 2-3. Whether you become an individual member or a member of our council, you will find that Knights of Columbus membership brings Catholic men together in a powerful way. If you want to join today, visit KofC.org/join and enter our council #6249 for local information.

Knights of Columbus Food Drive

The Knights of Columbus are conducting a food drive during Lent this year. Our goal is to have people donate one non-perishable food item for each day of Lent. There will be boxes in the rear of the church and we hope everyone can bring their items each week and help end hunger in our communities. The food will go to local food banks and our own food pantry. Thank you for your generosity.

